



## **Minutes HISTORY MUSEUM AND LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD Wednesday, February 4, 2015**

**Minutes of the HISTORY MUSEUM AND LIBRARY ADVISORY BOARD recorded at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 4, 2015, within the Tempe Public Library Second Floor Board Room, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, AZ.**

**(MEMBERS) Present:**

Jennifer Wagner (Chair)  
Virginia (Ginny) Sylvester (Vice-Chair)  
Shirley McKean  
Ann Lynn DiDomenico  
John Linda  
Johnny Tse  
Mary O'Grady  
Nicolle (Nikki) Gusz

**(MEMBERS) Not Present:**

David Huizingh  
James (Jim) Schoenwetter

**City Staff Present:**

Tracy Gray, Library Manager, Library and Cultural Services Division  
Brenda Abney, Museum Manager, Library and Cultural Services Division  
Carlos E. Bejarano Jr., Library Specialist, Library  
Melinda Gonzales, Administrative Assistant, History Museum

**General Public Present:**

Larry Conway, Friends of the Tempe Public Library

**Agenda Item 1 - Call to Order**

- Jennifer Wagner called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

**Agenda Item 2 - Call to the Audience**

- None.

**Agenda Item 3 - Approval of the December 10, 2014 History Museum and Library Advisory Board Special Meeting Minutes Document - ACTION**

MOTION: John Linda moved to approve the December 10, 2014 History Museum and Library Advisory Board Special Meeting minutes document as presented.  
SECOND: Virginia (Ginny) Sylvester seconded.

DECISION: December 10, 2014 History Museum and Library Advisory Board meeting minutes document approved as presented.

**Agenda Item 4 – Approval of the January 7, 2015 History Museum and Library Advisory Board Meeting Minutes Document - ACTION**

MOTION: John Linda moved to approve the January 7, 2015 History Museum and Library Advisory Board Special Meeting minutes document as presented.  
SECOND: Virginia (Ginny) Sylvester seconded.  
DECISION: January 7, 2015 History Museum and Library Advisory Board meeting minutes document approved as presented.

**Agenda Item 5 – Friends of the Tempe Public Library Report:**

- Larry Conway announced to the Board:
  - Ten of the fourteen Osher classes that began registration in January are completely full.
  - The Friends of the Tempe Public Library raised about \$1500.00 at their \$5 a bag book sale. The book sale sold 185 bags for five dollars each.
  - The Friends of the Tempe Public Library are on budget to continue their donations to Library for the end of the year in June.

**Agenda Item 6 – Tempe Historical Society Report:**

- None.

**Agenda Item 7 – Staff Reports:**

- Division Report – Jennifer Wagner read Barbara Roberts' report to the Board since Barbara was unable to attend the meeting:
  - General Fund operating budgets were submitted to the City on January 23.
  - Neither the Tempe Public Library nor the Tempe History Museum requested additional funds. The Tempe Public Library requested that the extended Library hours be renewed for the next fiscal year and be made permanent.
  - Library strategic planning will reconvene on February 19 with the intent to have a basic plan in place at the end of that day.
  - The Art and Cultural master plan consultants have been meeting this week, Monday through Wednesday, holding targeted stakeholder focus groups and a town hall meeting on February 3. An online survey at [www.tempe.gov/tempeartsplan](http://www.tempe.gov/tempeartsplan) for residents is available until February 23. The consultants expect to have a draft plan ready for review by April 2015.
- Library Report – Tracy Gray reported to the Board:
  - Library Comic-Con took place on Saturday, January 17. Library attendance increased by 1,500 people that day. Phoenix Comic-Con was the biggest co-sponsor of the Library Comic-Con which included authors, people in cosplay outfits, and crafts for children.
  - The Tempe Public Library will hold Blind Date with a Book on Valentine's Day. Patrons will participate by checking out a book that has been wrapped to hide the cover. The Friends of the Tempe Public Library will hand out free cookies in the Connections Café.
  - Tracy Gray handed out flyers for the Page Turners program. The Page Turners is a comprehensive reading skills program hosted by ASU Honors Students that offers one on

one instruction for second and third graders. The four week course started on January 27<sup>th</sup>. This is the second year the Page Turners have held their program at the Tempe Public Library. The program is completely full.

- Jennifer Wagner asked if there is a wait list. Tracy Gray answered that there is a wait list of about 25 people.
  - Tracy Gray handed out the Tempe Public Library's statistics for December 2014. Visitors to the Library and circulation of books and e-books are up.
  - Tracy Gray was asked why attendance was up. Tracy G. answered that the Library's hours have increased and the loan period for books was shortened to three weeks from four weeks in August 2014.
  - Circulation of e-materials dropped when the Tempe Public Library pulled out of the Greater Phoenix Digital Library consortium in December 2013 and has increased as the Library's e-collection grows.
  - Tracy Gray was asked why statistics for questions answered by staff are down. Tracy G. stated that the method of collecting statistics was changed to daily instead of quarterly and there is some feeling that not all interactions are being counted. Staff is investigating.
  - There was discussion about the cost of e-books and wait times for e-books on hold.
- Museum Report – Brenda Abney reported to the Board:
    - The History Museum's computer database, TMS, is being upgraded and currently undergoing troubleshooting.
    - Work being conducted on e-Museum, the public interface of the History Museum's online database, is expected to be completed by the end of February. Staff and interns have uploaded over 66 thousand records to the system. There was some discussion about the History Museum's website content.
    - Brenda Abney announced that the History Museum is in the process of undertaking more outreach. Brenda A. asked the Board to pass along ideas for opportunities to conduct more outreach to raise visibility for the History Museum.
    - Fourth grade tours of the History Museum have been extended into March and April.
    - The History Museum is meeting with the school district to create tours that dovetail with Arizona History and Common Core curriculum. Bussing costs are a hurdle for school tours of the History Museum.
    - The History Museum's Community Room is currently displaying an exhibit by the Diverse Artists Collective of Arizona as part of the celebration of African-American History Month.
    - The History Museum is currently holding antiques seminars by the Questers as a fundraiser for the Petersen House Museum.
      - Mary O'Grady asked about outreach events the History Museum has attended and has planned. Brenda Abney answered the events are Geeks' Night Out at City Hall, the Pueblo Grande Museum, the Southeast Regional Library (SERL) in Gilbert, and an outdoor event on Earth Day. Brenda A. added that she was recently the speaker at the noon Kiwanis Club.

#### **Agenda Item 8 – Elias-Rodriguez House Informational Update – Brenda Abney**

- Brenda Abney reported to the Board:
  - Brenda Abney gave a historical overview of the Elias-Rodriguez House site and the two buildings that are there. Brenda A. provided a written report.
  - Brenda Abney is in the process of developing a use policy and fee schedule recommendation for the property since there are requests to hold events there.

**Agenda Item 9 – Board Member’s Announcements:**

- None.

**Agenda Item 10 - Adjournment**

- Chair Jennifer Wagner adjourned the meeting at 6:24 PM.

The next meeting date and location of the History Museum and Library Advisory Board is Wednesday, March 4, 2015 at 5:30 PM in the Tempe History Museum Board room.

Prepared by: Carlos E. Bejarano Jr.

Reviewed by: Tracy Gray, Brenda Abney, and Barbara Roberts